

REMARKS

All claims stand rejected. Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 12, 19-25 and 31-33, 35, 37, 41-43 and 47 have been amended herein and believed to be in condition for allowance. All other claims have been cancelled herein. Applicant respectfully requests that the remaining claims as amended be allowed to proceed to issuance.

Examiner Interview Summary:

Attorney of record, Mark E. Stallion, conducted an interview with Examiner West regarding possible amendments to clarify the distinction over the Tanaka reference. The Examiner and the attorney of record ended the interview at an impasse over the interpretation of Tanaka as reading on correlating product defects with part defects. Attorney Stallion indicated that either an RCE will be filed along with a preliminary amendment further amending independent claims 1 and 33 or a Notice Of Appeal would be filed.

This preliminary amendment is submitted concurrently with an RCE. The claims as amended recite, inputting measurement data related to items selected from the group consisting of bone types, zero tolerance items, reprocessed zero tolerance items, salvaged zero tolerance items, fecal contamination locations, sanitation standard operating procedures (SSOP) ratings and work-in-progress temperatures , which is not anticipated, taught or suggested by the references cited individually or in combination.

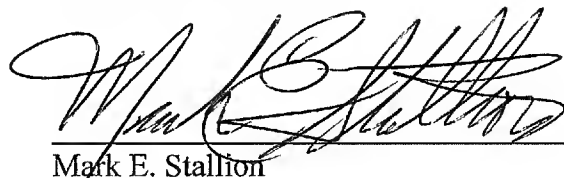
Application of: Peter Arthur Tobler, et al.
Serial No.: 10/708,146
Preliminary Amendment

If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

April 29, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark E. Stallion', written over a horizontal line.

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